

# **NJDEP Green Acres & Environmental Infrastructure Financing Program Informational Workshops**



**2003**

## **Featuring New Guidelines & Additional Sources of Funding**

### **Sponsors**

**State of New Jersey**

**Governor James E. McGreevey**

**Department of Environmental Protection**

**Bradley M. Campbell, Commissioner**

**Green Acres Program**

**John S. Watson, Administrator**

**Environmental Infrastructure Trust**

**Dennis Hart, Executive Director**

**Municipal Finance and Construction Element**

**Stan Cach, Assistant Director**

**In cooperation with:**

**Association of New Jersey Environmental**

**Commissions (ANJEC)**

**NJ League of Municipalities**

**NJ Recreation & Park Association (NJRPA)**

**NJ Division of Local Government Services**

## **ABOUT THE WORKSHOP**

Each year the NJDEP Green Acres Program holds informational workshops around the state to assist municipal and county officials, and nonprofit organizations to protect open space, provide quality recreational facilities, and provide effective land stewardship programs that will ensure the quality of our environment for generations to come.

### **Additional Source of Funding for Projects with Water Quality Benefit**

This year, Green Acres experienced overwhelming demand for open space acquisition funding and funding is more competitive than ever. To help meet this demand for funding, applicants who have a project with a water quality benefit can also apply to the Environmental Infrastructure Financing Program for acquisition funds.

**Join us to learn more!**

**Who Should Attend:** Government officials, nonprofit organizations, planning and land use professionals, open space boards, environmental commissions, and concerned citizens.

## **Agenda**

- 9:00 a.m. Registration, Welcome and Overview  
Land Acquisition  
Negotiating the Price  
Appraisal Process  
Slide Show - The World of Green Acres  
Compliance Issues and Answers, Inventories, and Changes in Use
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch  
New Jersey Environmental Infrastructure Financing Program  
Green Trust Local Program Application and Financial Requirements\*\*  
Administering a Project  
Question and Answer Session
- 3:00 p.m. (approximately) Adjourn
- \* Cumberland County workshop will begin at 9:30 a.m.
- \*\* NJ Division of Local Government Services has approved this session for one contact hour for certified county and municipal finance officers, municipal clerks, and public works managers. (DCA - 1 contact hour)  
.4 CEU awarded by NJRPA.

**REGISTRATION FEE: \$25 includes materials, refreshments and lunch. Bring a second member of your team and second person pays \$20.**

*Sorry, no refunds.*

# NJDEP Green Acres Program

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) Green Acres Program was created to meet New Jersey’s growing recreation and conservation needs.

Since 1961, the State has protected more than 514,000 acres of open space and developed hundreds of recreation facilities. Statewide, more than 1.2 million acres of open space and farmland have been preserved.

Green Acres protects environmentally sensitive open space, water resources and other significant natural and historic resources, and provides parks for New Jersey residents and visitors to enjoy.

Green Acres partners with, and provides grants and low interest loans, to qualifying county and municipal government agencies and nonprofit land conservancies who work to further these same goals.

Funding for land acquisition is provided in several categories: Urban Aid, Planning Incentive, Site-Specific Incentive, Standard Acquisition and nonprofit matching grants.

Funding for park development is also provided in the form of grants to urban-aid communities and low interest loans to non-urban communities.

The Green Acres Program administers funds provided through the Garden State Preservation Trust Act.

# NJ Environmental Infrastructure Financing Program

The NJ Environmental Infrastructure Financing Program (EIFP) is a partnership between the NJDEP and the NJ Environmental Infrastructure Trust (Trust). The EIFP provides low-cost financing to municipal, county, and other local government units and water purveyors for the construction of wastewater, drinking water and stormwater/nonpoint source pollution management projects, including open space acquisition that provides a water quality benefit.

## Benefits of Borrowing through EIFP

**Low Interest Loans** – Borrowers finance their projects with a combination of funds (75% at zero interest from NJDEP and 25% from the Trust AAA bond proceeds). This financing provides a rate equal to 1/4 the current market rate and results in a loan structure that reduces annual debt service significantly when compared to local financing options.

**No Annual Limit** – The EIFP has no limit on the amount of money that a borrower can finance to acquire land.

**Match to Green Acres Funding** - EIFP funding can be used as a local match for land acquisition projects funded through Green Acres.

**Pre-award Approval and Short-term Financing** The EIFP can provide pre-award approval provided the appropriate project approvals are obtained from DEP and the Trust prior to closing on the parcel. The Trust also offers short-term financing at highly favorable rates.

## 2003 Workshop Dates and Locations

- June 27** Cumberland County College  
Fine Arts Building  
Vineland, NJ
- July 17** Brick Township Municipal  
Building  
Brick, NJ
- July 23** Mercer County Boathouse  
Hamilton, NJ
- July 31** Charles Watters Community  
Service Building (formerly the  
Museum Building)  
Paramus, NJ

Additional workshops will be held in the fall.

Watch for the announcement of dates and locations toward the end of summer.

# REGISTRATION FORM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(please print)

Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax #: \_\_\_\_\_

*\* Please submit a separate form for each attendee.*

*Make checks payable to:  
TREASURER, STATE OF NEW JERSEY*

**Date and location of workshop you would like to attend:**  
\_\_\_\_\_

For Green Acres Use Only:

Check # \_\_\_\_\_

Invoice/Voucher # \_\_\_\_\_

**Return Form and Payment To:**

NJDEP Green Acres Program  
Attention: Nancee May, Coordinator  
P.O. Box 412  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0412  
Tel: (609) 984-0570

**Directions will be faxed or mailed one week prior to the workshop.**

*Sorry, no refunds.*